



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/775,063	02/11/2004	Takashi Sato	Q79869	3316
23373	7590	04/03/2009	EXAMINER	
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC			MILLER, MICHAEL G	
2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.				
SUITE 800			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20037			1792	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			04/03/2009	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. Examiner notes the amendment filed 10 MAR 2008. The amendment will NOT be entered after final for the following reasons:
  - a. The amendments raise new issues that would require further search and consideration (the amendment of claim 1 changes the scope of claims 1-2 and 6-11 by virtue of introducing a multi-part cleaning step where a single-part cleaning step was acceptable before; the amendment of claim 3 changes the scope of claims 3-4 on the same grounds as well as changing claim 3 to require a specific concentration of nitrogen which was not required before).
  - b. The amendments are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially simplifying or reducing the issues for appeal (as above).

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments filed 10 MAR 2009 have been fully considered but are ultimately moot. The arguments are based on the proposed amendment being entered; as discussed above, the proposed amendment is not being entered at this time.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL G. MILLER whose telephone number is (571)270-1861. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7-4.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Cleveland can be reached on (571) 272-1418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael G. Miller/  
Examiner, Art Unit 1792

/Michael Cleveland/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1792